

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

*Handwritten:* 7/1/78

COUNTRY Free Territory of Trieste

DATE DISTR 22 MAY 51

SUBJECT Dissuasion of Italian Optants in Istria  
by the Bishop of Trieste

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1C

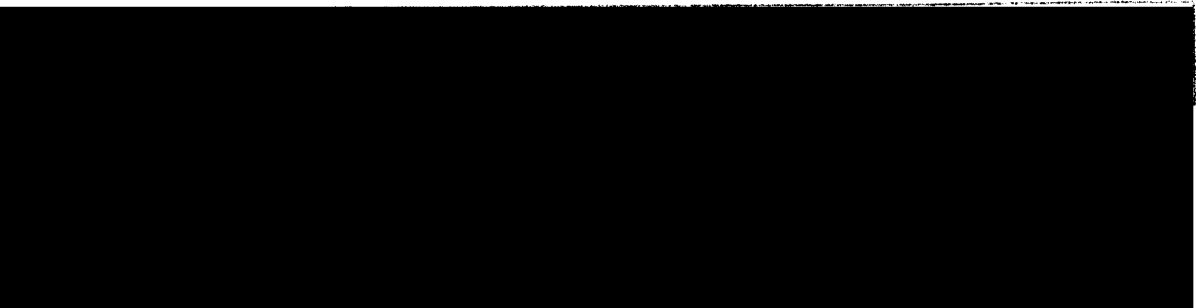
NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

INFO. [REDACTED]



25X1X

Bishop Santin of Trieste has reportedly instructed Catholic priests in Zone B, Free Territory of Trieste, and Italian centers in Istria to urge Italian residents in those areas not to opt to return to Italy. The Bishop allegedly stated that he had been waiting for Italian political parties to give the order but, since they had not done so, he felt that it was up to him to make the move."

25X1A

Comment: The question of opting for Italian citizens in Istria has created a difficult problem for Italian political parties, and in general they have been noncommittal. On one hand, they could play up the desire of optants to leave Yugoslavia as an indication of their persecution at the hands of the present regime. On the other hand, the more Italians leave Istria the less claim Italy can lay to the area on an ethnic basis. If the above information is true, it is probable that Bishop Santin issued the orders with the consent of the Italians, since spreading the word through parish priests would entail a minimum of publicity.

Document No. \_\_\_\_\_  
No Change in Class. ☒  
☐ Reclassified  
Class. Authority: TS S C  
Date: 31 JUL 1978 By: *CH*

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL-U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION							
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input type="checkbox"/> FBI								